

Marianne The PE teacher?

Roland What's that?

Marianne He was a, he was a PE teacher, wasn't he?

Roland Right, no, I see. They called it a day. New bloke's a something-or-other for the Office for National Statistics.

Marianne Wow.

Roland I've been ordered to sort out my two left feet or else. How about you?

Marianne Similar, really. Wedding.

Roland Your own or –

Marianne No, mine, yep.

Roland Congratulations.

Marianne Yep.

Roland Is your. Fiancé, is he –

Marianne Held up. He's. Been held up.

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Roland Hello, Marianne. It's Roland.

Marianne Roland.

Roland How are you? Hope I didn't scare you?

Marianne No. A bit. Maybe. I mean, a bit.

Roland Sorry.

Marianne Are you, are you here for the ballroom class?

Roland Yeah, no, yeah, I am, yeah.

Marianne Ballroom, really?

Roland Heather's getting married.

Marianne Heather?

Roland My sister.

Marianne Heather, of course.

Roland I've been ordered to sort out my two left feet or else.

Marianne Did you, did you know that I was going to be here?

Roland What? Did I –

Marianne Know that I was going to be here?

Roland No. No, of course not.

*Beat.*

Marianne I'm learning ballroom because I'm getting married, Roland.

Roland No, sure.

Marianne In September.

Roland Congratulations.

Marianne Thank you. What about you, are you –

Roland I was, but, for the moment, no.

Marianne Married?

Roland Seeing someone. I was seeing someone. But we broke up. So.

Marianne I'm sorry.

Roland No, please. Don't be.

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Marianne Hello, Roland.

Roland Marianne. Wow, shit. How's it, how's it going?

Marianne Well. I'm really well. Thanks.

Roland Great. Thass really great.

Marianne Yourself?

Roland Yeah, no, I mean, good, yeah.

Marianne I bought some of your honey.

Roland Oh really.

Marianne From the Budgens in Crouch End.

Roland Yeah, right. They're really great.

Marianne I said to the girl on the till, I said I used to know the man who made this honey.

Roland What did she say?

Marianne She just stared at me. How is everything? Business-wise.

Roland Good, yeah. 'Bout to start doing pollen.

Marianne Pollen?

Roland Yeah, you have to – Y'scrape it off the legs of the bees and then you ground it down. Really good for you apparently.

Marianne Scraping the legs of bees, or pollen?

Roland Had a, had an offer from Tesco of all people.

Marianne For the pollen?

Roland No, just for the honey.

Marianne How much for?

Roland Fair whack.

Marianne What did you say?

Roland Told 'em to go fuck 'emselves. I read one of your papers.

Marianne You did not?

Roland I did. I downloaded it.

Marianne Which one did you read?

Roland Something about hot subdwarf stars?

Marianne Were you really looking for midget porn on Google?

Roland What's that?

Marianne Subdwarf – It was a –

Roland Gotcha.

Marianne That's really amazing, Roland. Thank you.

Roland What did you think of the honey? From Budgens.

Marianne Delicious. It was completely delicious.

Roland It's heather.

Marianne Yes.

Roland We cart the bees up to the heather moors every August. One by one.

Marianne One by one?

Roland Hives, not bees.

Marianne Are you, are you here for the ballroom class?

Roland Yeah, no, yeah, I am, yeah. I'm. I'm actually. Engaged.

Marianne Oh wow.

Roland So. Yeah.

Marianne Who's the, who's the lucky lady?

Roland Alison. Alison O –

Marianne I remember.

Roland How about y'self, are you –

Marianne Just trying to lose a bit of weight. Too many late-night digestive binges. I blame the subdwarfs. The stars – The, the paper you read –

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Roland Heather's getting married in a couple of months, so.

Marianne The PE teacher?

Roland What's that?

Marianne He was a, he was a PE teacher, wasn't he?

Roland Right, no, I see. They called it a day. New bloke's a something-or-other for the DVLA.

Marianne Wow.

Roland I've been ordered to sort out my two left feet or else. How about you?

Marianne Similar, really. Wedding.

Roland Your own or –

Marianne No, God, can you imagine. I'm being a very diligent bridesmaid. We're having some kind of mass Viennese waltz. I'm not sure I fully understand it as yet.

Roland So is this your first? Lesson.

Marianne No, second. You?

Roland First, yeah.

Marianne Well done on the comfortable trouser front. I came straight from work. Last week. Crotch was like a fucking furnace by the time I got home.

*Beat.*

Roland Mary, I'm sorry.

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Marianne Well done on the comfortable trouser front. I came straight from work. Last week. Crotch was like a fucking inferno by the time I got home.

*Beat.*

Roland, I'm sorry.

Roland What for?

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Marianne Well done on the comfortable trouser front. I came straight from work. Last week. Crotch was like a fucking sauna by the time I got home.

*Beat.*

I have to say it because if I don't I'll feel like a fraud.

Roland Mary –

Marianne Let's go for a drink. I don't know what I'm doing here anyway. One drink. And if you never want to see me again you never have to see me again.

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Roland Mary –

Marianne Why don't we go for a drink? I don't know what I'm doing here anyway. One drink. And if you never want to see me again you never have to see me again.

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